

Application for 2006-2008



STARR

SELECT TEACHERS AS REGIONAL RESOURCES

*A Unique Professional Development Opportunity —
Teachers Teaching Teachers*

STARR is a state-level professional development program for Missouri schools created under provisions of the Outstanding Schools Act.

The STARR program, sponsored by the Missouri Department of Elementary and Secondary Education, provides an exciting, innovative and motivational professional development program for teachers throughout the state of Missouri. For the past twelve years top classroom teachers have been recruited to learn about and then share with their colleagues instructional practices which have been proven most effective in helping students to become successful in school.

The emphasis of the STARR program is on school improvement through the use of authentic instructional techniques. Teachers learn how to teach so that students become actively involved in their own learning. Teaching becomes a process of integrating “knowing” and “doing” so that students at all levels can combine and apply their knowledge more powerfully in real-life situations.

“After 23 years in the classroom, I have discovered wonderful new teaching strategies that have helped my students progress farther and understand more. In a perfect world, every teacher should have such a valuable opportunity as I have had.”

— Karen Busiere
STARR Teacher, Lincoln County



“When asked to describe STARR experiences in one word, I immediately thought of “metamorphosis.” My students and I are experiencing positive transformations infused with better attitudes, higher motivation and definitive increases in student achievement.”

— Donna Shaver
STARR Teacher, Jackson

Newly Selected STARR Teachers 2006-2008

In May a new group of STARR teachers will be selected. After an introductory seminar, the Department will provide these teachers with seminars in June, July, and August held by nationally known consultants.

Other seminars with national consultants and state experts will be held once or twice a month during the school year. All seminars will be closely connected to authentic instruction (also referred to as “active learning” or “hands-on learning”) and state initiatives. Topics to be introduced are experiential learning, reading strategies, cooperative learning, cooperative discipline, questioning skills and strategies, motivation, brain research on how students learn and related instructional strategies, problem-based learning, structures for higher-level thinking, reading, writing, assessment, academic standards, curriculum alignment, teaming, presentation techniques and more.

Sponsored by the Missouri Department of Elementary and Secondary Education

Deadline: April 7, 2006

STARR Program Commitments

The Teacher's Commitment

Teachers who wish to become STARR teachers must be willing to make a two-year commitment.

During 2006-2007, they must agree to:

- Participate in summer seminars in June, July, and August, 2006. These workshops are sponsored by the STARR program, Department of Elementary and Secondary Education. Participants will receive \$100 per day plus mileage, food, and hotel expenses.
- Practice in their regular classes throughout the school year, the skills and techniques learned.
- Meet at least 18 days during the school year, either as a regional or statewide group to attend seminars, to receive feedback, to further develop skills, and to participate in other follow-up activities. The Department will pay for all expenses STARR teachers incur as participants in the scheduled seminars and/or follow-up sessions (materials, supplies, mileage, food and hotel). Districts are reimbursed the cost for substitute teachers.

During 2007-2008, STARR teachers must agree to:

- Go on leave, supported by the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education, from their school districts to provide in-service for other Missouri teachers. Each STARR team will share office space at each of the nine designated state universities.
- Inform key school district personnel about the program, conduct meetings to discuss the program, and be available to conduct seminars and work with staffs of schools or school districts in their regions.
- Maintain flexible schedules so that they are available to make presentations at times most convenient for the schools and school districts requesting assistance. Although STARR teachers will not be expected to work

more than 40 hours a week, including travel time, they will be expected to conduct seminars outside of regular school hours, including after school and on Saturdays. The Department of Elementary and Secondary Education will reimburse STARR teachers for expenses they incur in conducting seminars, including materials, supplies, mileage, meals and other appropriate expenses.

- Serve as resource people and consultants for teacher-education programs at the host universities.



The School District's Commitment

A school district that endorses a teacher's participation in the STARR program also makes a two-year commitment.

During 2006-2007, the school district must:

- Support the teacher's attending the summer seminars on authentic instruction.
- Encourage the teacher to practice in their regular classrooms the techniques and skills learned in the seminars.
- Support the teacher's participation in follow-up activities that will require a minimum of 18 days during the school year.

During 2007-2008, the school district must:

- Allow the teacher to be absent from the regular classroom for the year.
- Grant the teacher salary and benefits equal to those the teacher would have received had he or she remained in the classroom.

The Department pays the salary and fringe benefits of a replacement teacher on the first step of the salary schedule. Since the district would pay

the salary of the local teacher whether he or she remains in the home district or participates in the STARR program, there is no additional cost to the district; however, for a year an experienced teacher is replaced by a beginning teacher.



The State's Commitment

The Department of Elementary and Secondary Education will support the 2006-2008 STARR program by

- Providing summer seminars on authentic instruction for STARR teachers and paying participants \$100 per day plus expenses.
- Sponsoring meetings, involving at least 18 school days, for the purposes of instruction, feedback, further development of skills, and other follow-up activities.
- Paying for materials, supplies, mileage, room and board whenever such expenses are incurred by STARR teachers participating in seminars or follow-up meetings sponsored by the Department.
- Paying for substitute teachers when it is necessary for STARR teachers to be out of the classroom for inservice or follow-up activities sponsored by the Department.
- Paying for materials, mileage, meals and other appropriate expenses incurred by STARR teachers while conducting professional development seminars.
- Granting to each STARR teacher's district financial assistance equal to the salary and fringe benefits of a teacher on the **first step of the district's salary schedule**.
- Providing the faculties at the host universities with the opportunity to integrate training developed through the STARR program into their teacher-education programs.

After each seminar throughout the school year, STARR teachers will return to their classes at their home schools to practice the skills and techniques learned. Meetings will also be planned for STARR teachers to meet in statewide or regional groups to share and receive feedback, further develop their skills and participate in other follow-up activities.

During 2007-2008 School Year

In 2007-2008, the new STARR teachers will go on leave, made possible by funding from the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education. The teachers will remain on their district's salary schedule during the year of leave and will remain in the Missouri Retirement System.

The STARR teachers will be available to conduct seminars in authentic instruction for schools and school districts in the regions surrounding the nine university sites where they will maintain offices for the year.

Each of the following state universities will be hosting STARR teachers:

- Central Missouri State University
- Northwest Missouri State University
- Southeast Missouri State University

New STARR Teachers to Be Selected for 2006-2008

The timeline for the selection and inservice of new STARR teachers is as follows:

- February 1** Information and application forms sent to superintendents, principals, CTA presidents, professional development chairpersons, teachers' organizations
- April 7** Applications due to the Department of Education
- April 17-21** Applications reviewed by selection committee
- May 1-19** Final applicants are interviewed
- May 23** STARR teachers informed of their selection

- Southwest Missouri State University
- Truman State University
- University of Missouri-Kansas City
- University of Missouri-Columbia
- University of Missouri-Rolla
- University of Missouri-St. Louis.

STARR teachers will conduct seminars during regular school hours, after regular school hours or on Saturdays.

The Department will pay for the STARR teachers' presentation-related expenses. All other costs must be paid for by the school or district that requested the inservice.

Teachers who participate in seminars conducted by STARR teachers will be asked to evaluate the inservice received. STARR teachers will

maintain a written reflective summary of the inservice they conduct. The Department also evaluates the overall STARR program.

Future STARRs

The Department will be selecting additional STARR teachers this spring. While the present group of STARRs is providing staff development programs throughout the state, the next group is being prepared to replace them the next year.

If this program sounds exciting to you, then apply! STARR teachers come from small schools to large schools, and they come with different backgrounds. We want a variety of participants, so don't let anything keep you from applying.

How to Apply

Practicing public school classroom teachers with at least three successful years of teaching experience may apply to be STARR teachers. To apply for the 2006-2008 program, complete the enclosed application form. Send the completed form with the requested attachments to:

The STARR Program
Division of Teacher Quality and Urban Education
P.O. Box 480
Jefferson City, MO 65102-0480

The application can also be found on the Web at: www.dese.mo.gov/divteachqual/starr/.

The deadline for applications is April 7, 2006.

A selection committee appointed by the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education will review the applications. Those chosen as STARR teachers will be notified by **May 23, 2006.**

Questions?

If you have questions about the Missouri STARR program, contact Linda Dooling, director of professional development at the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education (573-751-3963).

Missouri's STARR Teachers, 2006-2007

STARR teachers, along with their school districts, are listed below according to the locations where they will be based in 2006-2007.

Cape Girardeau (573-651-5956)

Southeast Missouri State University

- Donna Shaver, Jackson R-II
- Steve Cross, North St. Francois County R-I
- Cindy Rodgers, Jackson R-II

Columbia (800-551-0959)

University of Missouri-Columbia

- Karen Busiere, Lincoln R-II
- Gina Gilman, Mexico 59

Kansas City (816-235-2483)

University of Missouri-Kansas City

- Sandra Wallace, Liberty 53
- Diane Guill, Excelsior Springs 40
- Donna Tippit, Clinton County R-III

Kirksville (660-785-7497)

Truman State University

- Lori Ladwig, Adair County R-II
- Susan Kendrick, Paris R-II

Maryville (877-440-1996)

Northwest Missouri State University

- Howard Dumke, Northeast Nodaway County R-V
- Precious Love-Strader, St. Joseph

Rolla (573-341-4310)

University of Missouri-Rolla

- Gina Gobel, West Plains R-VII
- Betty Ennis, St. Clair R-XIII

Springfield (417-829-5057)

Southwest Missouri State University

- Robyn Schlette, Springfield R-XII
- Todd Varhalla, Springfield R-XII

St. Louis (314-692-9733)

University of Missouri-St. Louis

- Mary Saputo, St. Louis Public
- Dick Hellwege, Clayton
- Sherri Sampson, Parkway C-2

Warrensburg (660-543-8242)

Central Missouri State University

- Jana Miller, Warrensburg R-IV
- Susan Black, Miami R-I

"A huge window of opportunity opened for my students when I became a STARR teacher in training. Having the time to take an intense look at best practices and authentic teaching strategies has increased the amount of effectiveness and efficiency in teaching and learning for my students. We are learning faster, better and having a lot more fun."

— Mary Saputo
STARR Teacher, St. Louis City



"The STARR training has been wonderful. My students have gained so much through the cooperative learning strategies. I can keep them guessing what new idea we're going to use next, saving them from the 'DULL' drums."

— Susan Black
STARR Teacher, Miami



Missouri Department of Elementary and Secondary Education

P.O. Box 480, Jefferson City, MO 65102-0480

www.dese.mo.gov

The Department of Elementary and Secondary Education does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, disability, or age in its programs and activities. Inquiries related to Department programs may be directed to the Jefferson State Office Building, Title IX Coordinator, 5th Floor, 205 Jefferson Street, Jefferson City, MO 65102-0480; telephone number 573-751-4581.